(c) and (d) An outlay of Rs. 204.64 lakhs has been earmarked to Governemnt of Maharashtra for 1999- 2000 for the following components:

	Item	Target	Outlay (Lakh Rs.)
1.	Establishment of large Nurseries (No)	1	18.00
2.	Establishment of small Nurseries (No.)	12	2.40
3.	Tissue Culture Unit (public sector) (No)	1	10.00
4.	Tissue Culture Unit (Private sector) (No.)	1	21.00
5.	Area expansion (Ha.)	1935	106.51
6.	Rejuvenation (Ha.)	2450	33.23
7.	Training of Farmers (No.)	350	3.50
8.	Publicity measures		5.00
9.	Maintenance		5.00
	TOTAL:		204.64

(e) The details of progress achieved in Maharashtra since inception of the scheme during the VIII Plan till 1998-99 is as follows:

	Item	Progress Achieved
1.	Establshment of Large Nurseries (No.)	6
2.	Establshment of small Nurseries (No.)	24
3.	Tissue Culture Unit (Public sector) (No.)	2
4.	Tissue Culture Unit (Private sector) (No.)	1
5.	Area Expansion (Ha.)	5000
6.	Rejuvenaiton (Ha.)	9574
7.	Training of Farmers (No.)	1103

Benefits of research work to farmers

2315. SHRI K. RAHMAN KHAN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that benefits of the research works conducted by various Agriculture Universities/Institutes have not reached the farmers;

(b) whether it is also a fact that there are no proper linkages between the

farmers and these universities to pass on the knowledge and expertise to the farmers; and

(c) if so, what concrete steps are proposed to be taken in that direction?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) to (c) Government are aware with the importance of the benefit of the research works reaching the farmers. The Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) have been implementing various frontline extension programmes through the State Agricultural Universities (SAU), ICAR Institutes and other organizations. These are as follows:—

(1) The Council have established 261 Krishi Vigyan Kendras (KVK) including 139 with the SAUs. The activities of KVKs include on-farm testing for identifying the technologies on location-specific basis, front- line demonstration to establish the production potentiality of technologies on farmers' fields, skill training of farmers and in-service training for extension personnel to update their knowledge.

(2) The Council have sanctioned establishment of 40 Agricultural technology Information Centres (ATIC), including 25 in SAUs, to serve a single window system to provide solutions to the problems of the farmers and make available all technological information alongwith technology products for their testing and use

(3) A project on Technology Assessment and Refinement through Institution Village Linkage Programme (IVLP) has been launched by the Council at 42 centres including 24 SAUs. The concept is based on participatory mode ensuring greater scientist-farmer linkage in a 'bottom up' approach.

Besides, all the State Agricultural Universities have their own Directorates of Extension to undertake various activities for dissemination of technology to the farmers, which include farm advisory services, training of farmers and inservice personnel, adaptive trials on farmers, fields, field days, front-line demonstrations, kisan melas, workshops, diagnostic services, special campaigns, publication of extension literatures and technical support to TV and Radio programmes.